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RIDDLES FROM ANDROS ISLAND, BAHAMAS. — The following riddles slipped in as I was engaged in collecting the "ol' storee" of Andros. Had I collected the riddles more systematically, undoubtedly I should have gotten a very large number, as riddles are a favorite pastime of all Andros-Islanders.

1. Me riddle me riddle burandy oh,
Perhaps I can clear dis riddle,
An' perhaps you can.

My fader had a cheer [chair], his own.
Couldn't come in an' set in it,
But some one else, a stranger,
Could come in and set in it.

Ans. — His daughter. He couldn't marry his
own daughter. A stranger had to
come an' marry her.

2. Me riddle me riddle me randy oh.
Perhaps you could clear dis riddle,
An' perhaps you can't.

Some t'ing
Go up an' come down
An' eat grass.¹

Ans. (?)

3. Me riddle me riddle me randy oh.
Here's a t'ing.

White outside
An' yaller inside.

Ans. — Egg.

4. T'ree sisters standin' together,
None can't touch each oder.

Ans. — Pot foot.

5. Little Nan Nan in a short petticoat,
De larger she get de shorter she be.

Ans. — Candle.

6. My fader had seven sons,
An' all seven couldn' talk to each oders.

Ans. — Seven stars.

7. Here's a t'ing.
Knockin' up to de sea night an' day,
An' none could talk to each oder.

Ans. — Sea and rock.

8. My fader had a son twenty years
An' never eat a meal of victuals.

Ans. — Clock.

¹ The propounder of this riddle and of a few of the others referred to them as "sweet riddles."

9. Here's a t'ing.
Green outside
An' yaller inside.
Ans. — Papaw.
10. Here's a t'ing.
White to de en',
Black to de middle.
Ans. — Walking-stick.
11. My fader had a sheet,
An' he kyouldn' fol' it.
Ans. — Sky.
12. De black man settin' on de red man head.
Ans. — Pot settin' on fire.
13. Me riddle me riddle me randy oh.
Perhaps you could tell me,
Perhaps you can't.

It was something
White outside,
Red inside.
Ans. — Foul egg.
14. Something roun'.
It rolls all day,
An' it stop at night.
Ans. — Tongue.
15. It's astonish to see de dead carr' de livin'.
Ans. — Boat.
16. Here's a t'ing.
Black outside
An' black inside.
Ans. — Umbrella.
17. My fader had thirty white horses an' one red one.
Ans. — Teeth and tongue.
18. What kyan an ol' woman
An' young one kyan't?
Ans. — Green pease and dry pease.
19. Me riddle me riddle me randy oh.
Perhaps you can,
Perhaps you can not.

Me fader had a t'ing.
It white inside,
It green outside.
Ans. — Cocoanut.¹

¹ Told in Nassau, New Providence.

20. Me fader had a t'ing.
You drink de blood
An' t'row away de back.

Ans. — Cocoanut.¹

21. M struck R, an' W run.

Ans. — Moses struck the Rock, and Water ran.

The following were given me as "toas" [toasts]: —

In spring I looks gay
Dress in handsome array.
De cooler it grew,
I t'row off my clothing,
In winter quite naked appear.

De hardes' work my mudder give me
To pass de ladies wine.
De hardes' work my fader give me
To cut down pine.

ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS.

NEW YORK.

¹ Told in Nassau, New Providence.